

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
DIVERSITY  
NETWORK

GLBT INFORMATION  
SINCE  
1998

# VALLEY GAY PRESS

THE LEHIGH VALLEY & BERKS COUNTY'S  
GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER  
COMMUNITY OPINION & NEWS PAPER

VOL. 10 NO. 9

NOVEMBER 2007

## BINGO BINGO BINGO

### PDN BINGO

Sunday, November 4th  
5pm-9pm

At The Rainbow Room Bingo Hall  
2413 Sunshine Rd, Allentown  
(Behind Redner's on Lehigh St. near Rt. 309)

\$20 in advance/\$25 at door  
Hundreds of dollars in cash prizes!!

YOU CAN GET ADVANCE BINGO TICKETS  
ON LINE AT [WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG](http://WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG)  
READ MORE ABOUT PDN BINGO ON PAGE 5

Limited Seating- Reserve now at:  
610-432-5449/ [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org)  
Non-smoking event- Sandwiches & refreshments for sale.

Benefits The PA Diversity Network, Valley Gay Press,  
Rainbow Families, The Greater Lehigh Valley GLBT  
Infoline and The PDN Resource.

a benefit for FACT and Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley

### GAYDAR HOLIDAY PARTY

Thursday, November 29th  
Lee Gribbens on Main  
198 Main St., Emmaus, PA  
8-11PM

\$20 admission includes:  
gourmet spread and first cocktail

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT  
P.D.N.

RSVP to: Lee Gribbens on Main  
by calling (717) 967-4488 or  
Internet: [www.pdn.org](http://www.pdn.org)

### The PA Diversity Holiday Art & Craft Show

Reception: Friday November 16, 6pm to 9pm

Gallery Hours: Saturday, November 17, Noon to 7pm

Sunday November 18, Noon to 7pm

PA Diversity Gallery Space - 427 1/2 N. 9th Street, Allentown  
20% of sales will benefit PA Diversity Network programs.

Don't miss the gala artist's reception on  
Friday, Nov 16 6 to 9:00 pm

Meet and talk with the artists. Enjoy live entertainment by  
local jazz legend Roberta Meek, sample fine hors d'oeuvres  
and beverages by Patricia Sullivan,

shop and support the community. Entrance to the Friday  
reception is \$5 for PDN Members, \$7 for non-members.

Sat & Sun Hours Free

POTTERY, JEWELRY, PRINTS, T-SHIRTS,  
HATS, SCARFS, SOAP, FINE ART, CANDLES,  
CHOCOLATE, & MORE!

Contact: 610-432-5449, [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org)

Artists still needed!

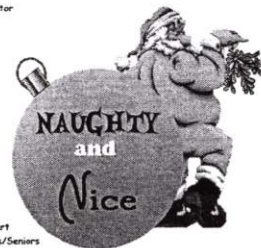
THE  
PENNSYLVANIA  
DIVERSITY  
NETWORK  
PHOTO PROJECT  
200 SAME-SEX  
COUPLES:  
FACING INEQUALITY  
WILL BE ON EXHIBIT AT  
READING AREA  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE  
NOVEMBER  
8, 9, AND 10  
READ MORE ON PAGE 3

Read about another  
Special Berks County  
PA Diversity Event on page 4

### Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus

J. Clinton Miller, Artistic Director  
Thomas Molesso, Accompanist

FALL AND  
HOLIDAY  
CONCERT



Reception after each concert  
Tickets \$15, \$12 Students/Seniors  
Call for Reservations!

Saturday  
November 17  
8 P.M.

Wesley United  
Methodist Church  
2340 Center St. (route 512)  
Bethlehem, PA

Sunday  
November 18  
4 P.M.

Grace Episcopal Church  
108 N. 9th St.  
Allentown, PA

Parking at the  
Baum School of Art

PO Box 20717, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610-346-2020 [editorial@valleygaypress.org](mailto:editorial@valleygaypress.org) [www.valleygaypress.org](http://www.valleygaypress.org)

BECOME A PDN MEMBER TO RECEIVE THE VALLEY GAY PRESS IN THE MAIL, SEE PAGE 10.

CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY NETWORK'S WEBSITE AT [WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG](http://WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG)



## What's That About?



Readers write or email "What's That About?" editor Big Bradbury with questions about GLBT issues.



**Dear WTA,** I know the Valley Gay Press and PA Diversity Network are separate organizations from PA-GALA, but do you know if PA-GALA will be sending out GLBT voter information this year? **Signed Super Voter**

**Dear SV,** Yes, it's election time, which means you need to vote on Tuesday, November 6th. I have not served on the PA-GALA Board for several years, however, according to Steve Black, political director of PA-GALA, he does not plan to distribute voter information for this election. That means you'll have to find the information on your own.

PA Diversity Network and the Valley Gay Press cannot endorse candidates, but we can report on news items regarding the candidates. People attending a candidate night at Muhlenberg College report that Lehigh County Commissioner candidates Gloria Hamm (D) (aka activist Allyson Diane Hamm's mom), Rich Gawlik (D), and Bill Leiner (D) all went on record at the event as supporting both anti-discrimination policies inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity for the entire County AND for domestic partner benefits for County employees. According to those there: Rich Gawlik gave the best answer, he said, "I won't even take a whole minute ... I absolutely support both programs."

In the City Council race in Allentown, Mike Donovan (D) made a point to come and meet with me to discuss his strong support for GLBT issues. Pete Schweyer (D), Jeanette Eichenwald (D), and Robert E. Smith Jr. (R) have all spoken positively for GLBT rights in the City as well.

## 19TH ST FILM SERIES

All films play in Theatre 514, 514 N. 19th Street.

**Oct. 14-20 Rocket Science**--Anna Kendrick & newcomer Reece Thompson star in this charming coming-of-age comedy-drama about the humiliations & triumphs of being 15.

**Oct. 22 - Nov. 4 Into the Wild**-- Sean Penn directs an all-star cast in the true story of a recent college graduate who abandons his possessions and hitchhikes to Alaska to live in the wilderness.

**Nov. 3-10 King of California**--Michael Douglas turns in a tour-de-force performance as a man who, released from a mental institution, returns to his 16-year-old's life to hunt for buried treasure and wreak havoc.

**Nov. 16-24 In the Shadow of the Moon**--The surviving crew members from NASA's Apollo missions tell the story of the first lunar landing in this compelling documentary.

**Nov. 25 - Dec. 1 Before the Devil Knows You're Dead**-- Sidney Lumet directs a first-rate cast, including Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke and Albert Finney, in the story of two brothers who conspire to rob their parents' jewelry store.

**Dec. 2-8 Ira and Abby**-- The team behind *Kissing Jessica Stein* presents a sweet, hilarious and slightly subversive comedy that examines the issues of marriage, monogamy, and whether "I do" is the only path to lifelong love and happiness.

**Dec. 9-16 Lars and the Real Girl**--Ryan Gosling stars as a delusional young guy strikes up an unconventional relationship with a doll he finds on the Internet.

2

## SCOTTY IN THE CITY

By Scott Laubner



### QUIZ TEAMS

About four months ago I starting going to the Big Quiz Thing. The Big Quiz Thing (it has a website) is a bi-weekly game of trivia held in a bar called Crash Mansion in the East Village. The trivia contest is held in a large room in the basement of this bar with a stage on one side of the room and tables and chairs filling the rest of the space. People compete on teams and they have created names for their teams like Strippers for Stephen Hawking, Alex Trebek's bastard children, Crouching Woman Hidden Cucumber, Adam Smith's Invisible Hand job, Team: The Musical, Robin Hood and his Merry meningitis and the Fantastic Fornicators. (For modesty's sake I've left out some of the dirtier names. The things they think up in the city!)

The winning team splits \$250. The moderator asks all kinds of questions usually dealing with pop culture. If a team doesn't know an answer they are allowed to make up a smart ass answer. The moderator will read the smart ass answer aloud and if the crowd laughs that team gets cookies for trying.

(You should also know I have been playing on a team called Gerard Depardouche. This team adopted me the first time I walked through the door. I was looking for Michael, an acquaintance of mine. He played for a team called Enola Gay Agenda. But I didn't see him, so I sat down with the Gerard Depardouche team. Michael must have stopped coming and I was never sure where Enola Gay Agenda sat or if they stopped coming.)

One balmy Monday in October I showed up, sat down with my team, and started to play. On this particular night the Quiz's video round was titled "Politicians, Pornos, and Professional wrestlers." The moderator and his sidekick showed ten slides each with a photo of one politician, one porn star and one professional wrestler photoshopped together. Each slide was worth three points. So we looked at photos of Pres. Taft with Rick Flair and Traci Lords; Charles Rangel with Ginger Lynn and George "the Animal" Steel. Etc. Etc.

When the round was over the moderator gave the correct answers and checked for possible smart ass points. For all the porn stars, team Enola Gay Agenda wrote on their answer sheet, "We're gay. How are we supposed to know?" The people laughed and so the moderator said "Enola Gay Agenda pick up your cookies." A guy walked up to the stage and picked up the bag of cookies. I followed him with my eyes to his table. At last I knew where this team sits.

After the end of Round 4 there was a drink break. I excused myself and walked over to their table.

"Excuse me. Is this the Enola Gay Agenda?" I asked.

"Yes, it is," said a cute gay nerd.

"I would like to join your team. But next time in two weeks," I said.

"Sure" said another team mate.

"Hey. You're that guy Michael told us about. The one on the wrong team," said the first one.

Feeling like a semi-celebrity, I said "Yes, I am."

I walked back my old team's table and the moderator announced the winners.

"In sixth place Gerard Depardouche."

"Douché on the loose," said the sidekick.

When it was over I turned to my team mate Steve and said "I have to tell you something. I am leaving Gerard Depardouche."

"Why?"

"Because there is another team I want to join."

"Which one?"

"Enola Gay Agenda."

"See, I knew you guys recruit." Team Douché was very cool and fine with my changing teams. They're big like that.

People started to leave the bar. Tomorrow was a work day. Enola Gay Agenda said good night to me on the way out and said to look for them in two weeks. They even gave me some of their cookies.



## HOT NEWS

## HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQI youth ages 14 - 20. Adult facilitator volunteers are needed for Wednesday evening meetings. Contact Pete Pellegrino havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or visit Haven's Web page at [www.uuclvpa.org/haven](http://www.uuclvpa.org/haven).

## GLOSS EVENTS

The Gay & Lesbian Organized Sports Society (GLOSS) offers indoor & outdoor activities throughout the year. New GLBT and allied members are always welcome regardless of skill level.

**The fall schedule is now in effect:**  
**Tennis:** Sundays at 3:00pm at Muhlenberg College courts. **Volleyball:** Thursdays at 7:00pm at West Catasaqua Playground.  
**Game Night:** the 4th Monday of the month, at 6:30pm at Conway's BBQ Restaurant in Kuhnsville. **Bowling:** the 2nd Friday of the month, at 8:45pm at the Playdrome in Allentown. **Pinochle:** the 2nd Saturday of the month, at 7:00pm at the Moose Lounge, 28 North 10th Street, Allentown. **Racquetball:** every Thursday and Saturday, at 7:00pm at the 24/7 Fitness Club, Allentown.

GLOSS has an email newsletter that will keep you updated on all their events. To sign up for the newsletter go to the website. GLOSS is always looking for people willing to be activity leaders. If your favorite activity is not listed, they will help you organize an event or outing by promoting it in the newsletter and website.

## KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY DATE SET

The annual Kids Christmas Party (co-sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley and Rainbow Families of Pennsylvania Diversity Network) has been scheduled for Saturday, December 15 from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at MCCLV. Activities will be appropriate for 2-6 year old children. Children must be accompanied by at least one parent or guardian. Songs, stories, crafts and snacks will be provided. RSVP to Carol Stevens at [castidings@aol.com](mailto:castidings@aol.com) by December 13th. A very merry time is anticipated.

## THIRD ANNUAL PA DIVERSITY HOLIDAY ART &amp; CRAFT SHOW

PA Diversity Gallery Space,  
 427 1/2 N. 9th Street, Allentown  
**Reception: Friday November 16,**  
**6pm to 9pm**  
**Reception Entrance Fee: \$7**  
**(\$5 for PDN members)**  
**Saturday, November 17, Noon to 7pm**  
**7pm & Sunday Nov. 18, Noon to 7pm**  
 (Entrance is FREE  
 on Saturday and Sunday)  
**Don't miss the gala artists reception on**

**Friday, Nov. 17, 6 to 9:00 pm**

At the reception: meet and talk with the artists, enjoy live entertainment by local jazz legend Roberta Meek, sample fine hors d'oeuvres by Patricia Sullivan, wine and beverages, shop and support the community. For further information: [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org) -- 610-432-5449

## PDN'S PHOTO PROJECT - 200 SAME-SEX COUPLES WILL BE IN READING NOV. 8, 9 &amp; 10

The PA Diversity Network Photo Project - 200 Same-sex Couples: Facing Inequality, will be on exhibit in the Penn Room of Berks Hall at 10 South Second Street in Reading, PA on November 8th and 9th - and during a multi-college diversity presentation that is not open to the public on Nov. 10th. PDN's Liz Bradbury and Patricia Sullivan will be working with Kym Kleinsmith of RACC to hang the show beginning at 1pm on Thursday, November 8th. If you would like to help hang the show, please stop by the college after 1pm on Nov. 8th.

## MCC'S FREEDOM TO MARRY DAY

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley will observe National Freedom to Marry Day in February, 2008. On Friday, February 8 MCCLV will lead a Courthouse Action and on Saturday, February 9 MCCLV will lead a worship service celebrating same-sex couples. For more information and to help with planning, phone MCCLV at 610-709-8800 or e-mail [info@mcclv.org](mailto:info@mcclv.org)

## OMICRON PLAY

OTP's Macbeth, directed by Company Member Christopher Michael Morris and featuring Company Members Aaron Novak (Shakespeare's R&J), The Nature Line, The Laramie Project) and Megan Ridge (Mr. Marmalade, The Nature Line, The Laramie Project) as two of Shakespeare's most bloody and infamous lovers! The cast also features: Katherine Perry, Len Neil, Alyssa Evers, Will Erwin, Cameron Gosselin, Robin Fusco & Adam Pinti. The Black Box Theatre -- The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts, 675 E. Broad Street in Bethlehem. November 15 thru November 25th Tickets - \$18.00 (\$15.00 for Seniors, \$12.00 for Students). For Reservations & Information: [omicrontheatreproject@yahoo.com](mailto:omicrontheatreproject@yahoo.com) or call Eric Hersh, LVPA Director of Production at 610-868-2971 ext. 147.

## AFRICAN DANCE TROUPE AT UNITED FRIENDS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

United Friends School will have an Admissions Open House on Sunday, November 11th at 2 pm. There will be a performance by the Friends of Sironka African Dance Troupe from Maasai villages in Kenya at 4:30. This will be followed by a potluck dinner.

Events are open to all and there is no admission charge, although the Maasai dancers do accept donations.

UFS is a pre-school through 8th grade progressive, independent school located at 1018 West Broad St., in Quakertown. "We encourage and celebrate diversity. We make each day an inspiring learning experience," States UFS.

For info contact Elizabeth Goff (PDN member) at 610-965-5543 or Marie Knapp, Director of Admissions at 215-538-1733.

## GRANT FOR RAINBOW FLAGS

Community Activist Charles Versaggi has provided a small grant to PA Diversity Network to finance the distribution of rainbow flags to fly in front of homes in the Center City area of Allentown. If you live in this area and would like to fly the rainbow colors in front of your home, contact PA Diversity Network at 610-432-5449 or [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org) for more information.

**CHECK OUT PHOTO ALBUMS OF THE PDN 5K RACE TEAM AND THE WACHOVIA MIXER EVENT AT PDN'S WEB SITE: WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG**



## 4 GLORA

The holidays are approaching and GLORA - The Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown - is celebrating with food, fun, and friends! Upcoming events for December include the annual Anniversary/Holiday Dinner to be held in the Kutztown area and the annual New Year's Eve Party to be held in the Allentown area. For details about these events, please email GLORA@dejazzd.com or write GLORA, PO Box 414, Fredrick, PA 19435. GLORA is a non-profit, social group for men and women, singles or couples. New people are always welcome!

## PFLAG NEWS

PFLAG - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays, [www.eastern-pa-pflag.org](http://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org). e-mail: [info@eastern-pa-pflag.org](mailto:info@eastern-pa-pflag.org). Meeting locations: LV - 1st Tues., 1st Pres. Church, Allentown. 610-967-5219. Reading - 3rd Tues., Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading. 610-967-5219. Monroe - 3rd. Wed., Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg. 570-620-1234. Pottsville - 3rd Thursday at 6:30PM, Terrence Reiley Community Building, 216 N. 12th Street, Pottsville: 570-624-3151 or e-mail [pflagpottsville@hotmail.com](mailto:pflagpottsville@hotmail.com). Meeting Dates: Allentown - Nov. 6, Dec. 4 Monroe - Dec. 19 Reading - Nov. 20

## BERKS GAY MEN'S GROUP

Berks Gay Men's Social Group - Join BGMSG for a variety of social activities for gay men in Berks and surrounding areas. For information or to sign up email: [BGMSG@comcast.net](mailto:BGMSG@comcast.net). Visit the web site for a complete list of upcoming activities. [www.berksmsg.com](http://www.berksmsg.com).

## SYLVIA COMICS

SYLVIA comic artist and author Nicole Hollander has graciously agreed to let Valley Gay Press feature Sylvia comics. Grateful thanks to Nicole for this swell opportunity! To see more Sylvia cartoons check the Sylvia website: [www.nicolehollander.com](http://www.nicolehollander.com).

## READING PFLAG (BERKS COUNTY)

Meets at 6:30pm on the THIRD TUESDAY of each month, September through May at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading & Berks County, 416 Franklin St. Reading. For information or to confirm scheduled meetings call: 610.858.9278. For more PFLAG information call the Help Lines: 610-967-5219, [www.eastern-pa-pflag.org](http://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org) or e-mail: [info@eastern-pa-pflag.org](mailto:info@eastern-pa-pflag.org).

## PA DIVERSITY NETWORK SPECIAL EVENT FOR BERKS COUNTY GLBT RESIDENTS

Domestic Partners have the same financial goals as everyone else...

*The challenge of getting there may be different.*

Please be our guest for dinner & informal discussion regarding the needs of the LGBT community relative to Legal agreements, Retirement planning, Tax-smart Investing and Legacy Protection.

Facilitated by: Amy Smart, LGBT Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch

Thursday, November 29, 2007 at 6:30 pm. The Oley Valley Inn 401 Main Street Oley, PA A donation supporting PA Diversity Network will be graciously accepted.

Contact and RSVP: (610) 398-4260 -- Seating is limited, call to RSVP today!

**SYLVIA BY NICOLE HOLLANDER**

## PDN List of Upcoming Events.

November 4 -- PDN Bingo! At the Rainbow Bingo Hall with Kim Mickey calling.

November 8, 9, 10 -- The PDN Photo Project will be at Reading Area Community College

November 16, 17, 18 -- PDN Holiday Art Show at the PDN Gallery in Allentown

November 29 -- Informational event in Reading with Merrill Lynch Rep Amy Smart about GLBT legal issues.

Mid December -- Rainbow Families Christmas Party for GLBT families with children. This event is cosponsored by MCCLV and will be held at the Church.

February 8-9, 2008 -- PDN will participate in Freedom to Marry Court House action and ceremony.

## LGBTQA TEEN GROUP SPECTRUM IN READING

Spectrum is open to LGBTQ teens and their allies ages 14-18. Meetings are held every Wednesday evening from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on the second floor of PPNEP's Reading media center. Spectrum seeks adult volunteers to assist with the program. Criminal background checks, training and references are required. If you'd like to volunteer, contact sexuality educator and manager of Spectrum, Amber Brown at 610-376-0137.

## SUPPORT GROUP - BERKS

LGBTQ Support Group has formed at Sanctuary Counseling in Douglassville. Join this group for an affirming, confidential experience of community and support! Meets the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30PM. Services are free for these groups. Nominal donations for materials/refreshments are appreciated. Sanctuary Counseling provides affirming counseling for the LGBTQ community, and is conveniently located for clients in northern Chester, southeastern Berks, and western Montgomery counties and the Route 422 corridor. Please visit the web site at [sanctuarycounseling.com](http://sanctuarycounseling.com), or call: 610-385-3155. New VGP Drop-Off spot.



Nicole Hollander

MEN, HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT NO MATTER HOW JUICY A tidbit YOU HAVE TO SHARE, YOUR AUDIENCE IS NODDING OFF HALF-WAY THROUGH THE STORY? JOIN OTHERS LIKE YOURSELF IN A WORKSHOP TAUGHT BY LEADING WOMEN GOSSIPS. LEARN TECHNIQUES THAT LEAVE THEM BEGGING FOR MORE. THIS CLASS IS AVAILABLE BY CELL PHONE FOR THOSE WHO WISH ANONYMITY.





# SOOZ VIEWS

5

## WHEN THE PRESS DID ITS JOB

By Sue Sneeringer

ALL THE PRESIDENTS MEN is a cinematic gem. The film and its adapted screenplay are routinely selected for best of the best lists and no matter how many times I watch it, I am still swept up by the power of the story and the way Alan Pakula (director), Robert Redford (star and co-executive producer) and William Goldman (screenwriter) bring it to me.

I recently chose the film as a successful model for material adapted to the screen from another source, for a screenwriting seminar I was asked to moderate for high school students at the just finished Berks Movie Madness Film Festival. The fact that the book source is non-fiction, that we know the outcome when we sit down to watch (well, we're supposed to, anyway...!), makes the adaptation all the more impressive. However, between the blank 9AM stares and yawns, it was hard to tell if anything was penetrating those young minds. I love the opportunity to share my love of movies with anyone but I could swear they all thought I was speaking about some OTHER country when I talked about Richard Milhouse Nixon and his impeachment. If I asked them about Bill Clinton's blowjob and his subsequent impeachment, however, they would probably laugh and consider themselves informed but this aspect of the seminar was daunting to me.

A recent item in the Citizens for the Arts newsletter asked its readers to define the value of the arts to the community. My first thought on the subject was how good theatre and films help us know who we are and where we come from. They also help us to imagine the world in which we want to live. Dare I hope that at least one or two of the kids at the seminar might go out and rent ATPM and use the film as a segue to knowing more about the history of their country? Dare I hope even further that they might see a parallel to current events? I do and I will.

Something broke us in Nixon's time. Vietnam, for sure, but his pardon at the hands of Gerald Ford, too, I think. It was then and continues to be about accountability. ALL THE PRESIDENTS MEN harkens us back to a time when the press did its job and the courts followed (the film's most powerful images remind us of the power of the written word). Perhaps the students' blank stares were caused by hour of the day. Perhaps by their lack of knowledge of the subject. Perhaps by my faulty teaching skills! Whatever the case may be, I hope MICHAEL CLAYTON and IN THE VALLEY OF ELAH and RENDITION and other serious films now available to them in their own time, lead them to a new understanding of their precious freedoms and the commitment it takes from us all to preserve them.

## MUHLENBERG THEATRE

Muhlenberg Theatre Association presents: NEW VOICES: 4 Original One Act Plays by Muhlenberg Playwrights, Artistic Director: Bill Mutimer. Set - a surreal comedy of life written and directed by William Schmidt '08; Serpentine - a bittersweet coming-of-age story written by Brendon Votipka '09 and directed by alumnus Phil Haas '05; Princess - a raw story of rape and recovery written by Catherine Davidson '10 and directed by Philip Lakin '09; Casa De Muñecas - a seductive satire on love and marriage written by Wilma Cespedes-Rivera '09 and directed by Adrian Anchondo.

NEW VOICES also includes two staged readings of these additional original plays under the direction of Bill Mutimer: check the website for details. Hatching by Will Porter; Beyond Apathy and Destruction by Michael Kite.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Nov. 29 - Dec 2 • Studio Theatre, Trexler Pavilion (Thu and Fri at 8pm; Sat at 2pm and 8pm; Sun at 2pm) Muhlenberg College, 2400 Chew Street, Allentown PA. Tickets \$15. [www.muhlenberg.edu/tickets](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/tickets) Box Office 484.664.3333.

**LIST YOUR ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS RESOURCE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG**

## CIVIC THEATRE OF ALLENTOWN PRESENTS ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF A CHRISTMAS CAROL

For the 16th consecutive year, Civic Theatre of Allentown will present its cherished production of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol as adapted for the Civic stage by William Sanders and Sharon Lee Glassman. Performances will be at Civic's 19th Street Theatre.

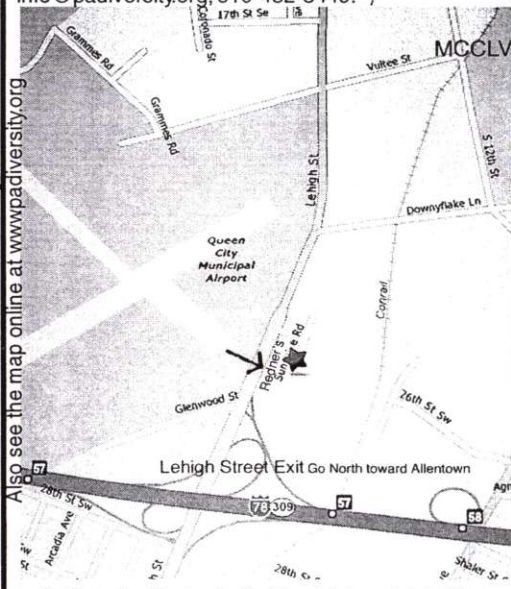
Performance dates are: November 30th-December 2nd, December 6th-9th, and December 13th-16th. (Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm, with an additional 2pm matinee on Saturday December 15th.) Ticket prices range from \$20-\$24 for adults and \$17-\$21 for students/seniors depending on performance date.

## PDN BINGO!

Sunday, November 4 - 5pm-9pm At The Rainbow Room Bingo Hall - 2413 Sunshine Road, Allentown (Behind Redner's on Lehigh Street near Rt. 309) see map below. \$20 in advance/\$25 at door. Admission price gives you cards to play all night! **Hundreds of dollars in cash prizes!!**

Get advance tickets on-line at [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org) or call 610-432-5449. Non smoking event. Food & refreshments for sale. Benefits PA Diversity Network projects including: Valley Gay Press, Rainbow Families, The GLBT Infoline, PDN's Resource Web Site, The PDN Photo Project and PDN Advocacy.

If you represent a business or organization that could donate a Bingo Prize, please contact info@padiversity.org, 610-432-5449.



Pull into the Redner's Parking lot, turn right at the store, Rainbow Bingo Hall is in front of you.



# 6 CALENDAR

**Am Haskalah**, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Services at Allentown JCC at 22nd and Tilghman Streets, <http://www.jrf.org/amhaskpa>, 610-435-3775  
**ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women**, **ACCO Outreach**-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424

**AIDS WALK**-see **FACT**  
**ASC**-AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701  
**BGMSG** - Berk's County Gay Men's Social Group -- singles and couples social events [berksgmsg@aol.com](mailto:berksgmsg@aol.com)

**BMA**- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360

**CIVIC and 19th St. Theater**, 527 N 19th St, 610-432-8943, <[civictheater.com](http://civictheater.com)>

**CUUPS** -- Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans every 4th Sunday at noon at the UUCLV, [uucv\\_cuups@yahoo.com](mailto:uucv_cuups@yahoo.com).

**Enigma Players**-- qacres@prolog.net  
**equal@agere** -email: [equal@agere.com](mailto:equal@agere.com)

**FACT**- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519

**Gaydar Magazine** -- [www.gaydarmagazine.com](http://www.gaydarmagazine.com)

**GLEE** at Air Products  
**GLISN** - at Dun & Bradstreet, <[vagranthollow.com/GLISN/](mailto:vagranthollow.com/GLISN/)>

**GLORA** - Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown [www.glora.1colony.com](http://www.glora.1colony.com), [glora@dejazzed.com](mailto:glora@dejazzed.com)

**GLOSS** - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, [www.gloss.org](http://www.gloss.org) Info@[gloss.org](mailto:gloss.org)

**GLOW** - at PPL

**HAVEN** GLBT Youth Group of the UUCLV - call: 610-868-2153, email: [havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com)

**HMFF**-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716

**Integrity**- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 [gamba.guy@verizon.net](mailto:gamba.guy@verizon.net)

**Infoline** - Greater LV GLBT Infoline: 610-HELP123 (435-7123) M-F 6pm -9pm Office: 610-432-5449 [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org)

**INTERWEAVE** -- GLBTAI group at the UUCLV, 3rd Sundays.. [Interweave\\_UUCLV@yahoo.com](mailto:Interweave_UUCLV@yahoo.com) 610-866-7652.

**LVGMC** -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email: [info@lvmgc.org](mailto:info@lvmgc.org), <[www.lvmgc.org](http://www.lvmgc.org)> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Tues.-Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem

**Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition**- 610-610-997-0976, [humanrights4all@aol.com](mailto:humanrights4all@aol.com), 610-814-0530 [JamesHalleman@aol.com](mailto:JamesHalleman@aol.com)

**MCC** - Metropolitan Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, [mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com](mailto:mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com), <http://www.mccclv.org> 610-709-8800

**Muhlenberg GSA** Muhlenberg College Organization 610.821.3244

**NCC**- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 610-767-0296

**19th St & Civic Theatre** - 610.432.8943

**Out There**- Students at Cedar Crest College

**PA-Diversity Network**- 610-432-5449 [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org) PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

**PA-GALA** - Pennsylvania Gay And Lesbian Alliance, (Candidate Guide, & Political Lobbying) P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610-863-0227 [www.pa-gala.org](http://www.pa-gala.org)

## NOVEMBER 2007 VOTE

| Sunday                                | Monday                  | Tuesday             | Wednesday                     | Thursday                             | Friday                      | Saturday                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                       |                         |                     | HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM    | 1 RAA<br>GLOSS<br>Muhlenberg Theatre | 2<br>19th St                | 3 WDIY<br>GROSS<br>Photo Project |
| 4 GLOSS<br>PDN Bingo!!!               | 5 RAA                   | 6 LVGMC<br>LV PFLAG | 7 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM  | 8 RAA<br>@RACC                       | 9 GLOSS<br>Photo Project    | 10 GLOSS<br>Photo Project        |
| 11 WDIY<br>MCC HMFF<br>UFS Open House | 12 RAA<br>Touchstone    | 13 GMC<br>R PFLAG   | 14 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM | 15 GLOSS<br>Omicron<br>P PFLAG       | 16 PDN ART<br>Show          | 17 PDN ART<br>Show               |
| 18 GLOSS<br>PDN ART<br>Show           | 19 RAA<br>Reading Pride | 20 LVGMC<br>Omicron | 21 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM | 22 MCC TG<br>Dinner                  | 23 Omicron<br>19th St       | 24 WDIY<br>GROSS                 |
| 25 GLOSS<br>Omicron<br>19th St        | 26 GLOSS<br>Game Nite   | 27 LVGMC<br>19th St | 28 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM | 29 Gaydar<br>Berks Financial         | 30 19th St<br>Civic Theatre |                                  |

## DECEMBER 2007

| Sunday                                 | Monday                     | Tuesday                               | Wednesday                     | Thursday                         | Friday                     | Saturday                               |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|  |                            |                                       |                               |                                  | Civic Theatre<br>19th St   | GLOSS<br>Muhlenberg Theatre            |
| 2 MCC<br>World Aids Day                | 3 RAA<br>FACT<br>Snow Ball | 4 LV PFLAG<br>LVGMC                   | 5 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM  | 6 GLOSS<br>RAA<br>Civic Theatre  | 7 19th St. Movie           | 8 WDIY<br>RENAISSANCE<br>Civic Theatre |
| 9 GLOSS<br>UUCV HMFF<br>Civic Theatre  | 10 RAA<br>19th St          | 11 LVGMC<br>R PFLAG<br>19th St. Movie | 12 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM | 13 RAA<br>GLOSS<br>Civic Theatre | 14 GLOSS<br>19th St. Movie | 15 GLOSS<br>Rainbow Families           |
| 16 GLOSS<br>UUCV HMFF<br>Civic Theatre | 17 RAA                     | 18 LVGMC                              | 19 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM | 20 RAA<br>GLOSS<br>P PFLAG       | 21                         | 22 GLOSS<br>WDIY                       |
| 23 GLOSS<br>UUCV HMFF<br>Civic Theatre | 24 RAA                     | 25 LVGMC                              | 26 HAVEN<br>TEJAS<br>SPECTRUM | 27 GLOSS<br>RAA                  | 28                         | 29 GLOSS<br>WDIY                       |
| 30 UUCV                                | 30                         |                                       |                               |                                  |                            |  |

## JANUARY 2008

| Sunday                              | Monday   | Tuesday             | Wednesday                     | Thursday                   | Friday   | Saturday         |
|-------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|------------------|
|                                     | RAA      | 1 LV PFLAG<br>LVGMC | 2 SPECTRUM<br>HAVEN<br>TEJAS  | 3 RAA<br>GLOSS             | 4        | 5 GLOSS<br>WDIY  |
| 6 WDIY<br>UUCV HMFF                 | 7 RAA    | 8 LVGMC             | 9 SPECTRUM<br>TEJAS<br>HAVEN  | 10 RAA<br>GLOSS            | 11 GLOSS | 12 WDIY<br>GLOSS |
| 13 GLOSS<br>HMFF                    | 14 RAA   | 15 R PFLAG<br>LVGMC | 16 TEJAS<br>HAVEN<br>SPECTRUM | 17 GLOSS<br>RAA<br>P PFLAG | 18       | 19 WDIY<br>GLOSS |
| 20 GLOSS<br>HMFF UUCV<br>Interweave | 21 RAA   | 22 LVGMC            | 23 TEJAS<br>HAVEN<br>SPECTRUM | 24 RAA<br>GLOSS            | 25       | 26 WDIY<br>GLOSS |
| 27 WDIY<br>UUCV HMFF                | 28 GLOSS | 29 LVGMC            | 30 TEJAS<br>HAVEN<br>SPECTRUM | 31                         |          |                  |



**PFLAG** - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 www.eastern-pflag.org

**Pride** - Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, e-mail: <info@prideglv.org>, <www.prideglv.org>

**Progressive Students Alliance** - www.lehigh.edu/~inpsua/lvpsa/whatsa.htm  
**Quakers-Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting-Route 512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA.** Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.

**RAA** - Rainbow AA meetings Monday & Thursdays, 7:30p. 2nd flt Church of the Mediator -1620 Turner St. Allentown, AA Hotline: 610-882-0558.

**Rainbow Families** - donniearluca@msn.com  
**Ren** - Renaissance Transgendered Assoc., Meets at MCCLV renlv.org

**Reading P-FLAG** 610-967-5219

**Reading Pride** - Festival in Reading www.readingpridecelebration.org

**Safe Space** - At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973

**Spectrum** -- LGBTQA Teen Group, Planned Parenthood, 48 South 4th Street, Reading PA 610-376-0137

**Temple Sophia**, Interfaith Sanctuary 570-657-6447 Pastor: Rt. Rev. Tom Cormier

**T.O.** - Theatre Outlet, Allentown, 610-820-9270.  
**UUCLV** - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.

**VGP** - Valley Gay Press, 610.432.5449, VGP@padiversity.org VGP PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley PA 18002 www.padiversity.org

**Wachovia-GALEA** - Gay and Lesbian Employee Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com  
**WDIY** - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 6:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 6:30 pm, 8100.88.

## **SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**RAINBOW AA - MON & THURS**  
**SANCTUARY SUPPORT - 3RD MONS**  
**GLOSS GAME NITE - 4TH MONS**  
**LVGAC REHEARSALS - TUESDAYS**  
**LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS**  
**READING - PFLAG 3RD TUES**  
**GLOSS TENNIS - SUNS**  
**MCCLV TEJAS**  
**WOMANS GRP - WEDS**  
**LV HAVEN - WEDS**  
**READING SPECTRUM - WEDS**  
**MONROE PFLAG - 3RD WEDS**  
**JAN, MAR, JUN, SEPT, DEC ONLY**  
**POTTSVILLE PFLAG - 3RD THURS**  
**GLOSS VOLLEYBALL - THURS**  
**GLOSS RAC-BALL-THURS & SAT**  
**GLOSS BOWLING - 2ND FRI**  
**GLOSS PINOCCHIO - 2ND SAT**  
**RENAISSANCE - 2ND SAT**  
**INTERWEAVE - 3RD SUNDAYS**  
**MCCLV MENS GRP - SUN**

**NOV 3-10 - 19TH ST**  
**NOV 4 - PDN BINGO**  
**NOV 6 - ALLENTOWN PFLAG**  
**NOV 8-10 - PHOTO PROJ@ RACC**  
**NOV 11 - UFS OPEN HOUSE**  
**NOV 12 - TOUCHSTONE**  
**NOV 13 - READING PFLAG**  
**NOV 15 - POTTSVILLE PFLAG**  
**NOV 15-17 - MUHLENBERG**  
**NOV 15-25 - OMICRON**  
**NOV 15 - DEC 4 - 19TH ST**  
**NOV 16-18 - PDN ART SHOW**  
**NOV 17 - LVGMC CONCERT**  
**NOV 19 - READING PRIDE MTG**  
**NOV 22 - MCCLV WING**  
**NOV 25-DEC 1 - 19TH ST**  
**NOV 29 - GAYDAR PARTY**  
**NOV 29 - GLBT FINANCIAL PLANNING EVENT BERKS**  
**NOV 29-DEC 2 - MUHLENBERG**  
**NOV 30-DEC 3 - CIVIC THEATRE**  
**DEC 2 - WORLD AIDS DAY**  
**DEC 2-8 - 19TH ST**  
**DEC 3 - FACT SNOWBALL**  
**DEC 4 - ALLENTOWN PFLAG**  
**DEC 6-9 - CIVIC THEATRE**

**INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE !**  
**TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449**  
**INFO@PADIVERSITY.ORG**

## **MCC DELAYS MOVE**

Due to construction delays, MCCLV is re-scheduling its move to 930 North 4th Street until the end of this year. The church's first Sunday worship services in the new space will be on Sunday, January 6. MCCLV's Building Dedication service will be re-scheduled, stay tuned for details. MCC sends its apologies for any inconvenience and many thanks for your patience!

## **PDN THANKS DONORS**

PA Diversity Network thanks the following businesses and organizations for donations of silent auction items and Bingo prizes. Including: The Law Offices of Kate Lynn PC for an Estate Planning Package. Muhlenberg College Theatre and Dance for Gilbert and Sullivan and Zanna Don't tickets. Allentown Brewworks for gift certificates. Barbara Kent-Jackson of Celestiasar for a Betty Boop figure. Steve Libby of Gaydar Magazine for free Gaydars. Princess House Representative Marc Freligh for some crystal frames. Civic Theatre for A Christmas Carol tickets. Laura Bilger of The Organic Mattress Store for Organic Pure Grow Wool Pillows. Tom Florio of Kneading Hands Massage Massage certificates. Lenora Johnson for a Diamond gift certificate. Dr. Binae Karpo for designer dark glasses and eye exams. Artist Rafael Canizares for a sculptural vessel. Dreamscape Comics for a gift certificate. And others. Read more about these business and organizations at [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org).

If your business or organization would like to donate an item for a PA Diversity Network Fundraiser please contact PDN: 610-432-5449 lbradbury@padiversity.org. Donations entitle the donor to a display ad at PDN's web site.

## **RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY**

### **THINGS I'M GRATEFUL FOR**

**VISIBILITY.** In case you haven't noticed the gays are popping up everywhere. And it's about time. Everything is a little better with a touch of gay. Every month Takeover Lehigh Valley picks a gay-friendly establishment for their social mixer. BrewWorks, Drinkys and Bacio to Grille 3501, Bear Creek, and Melt have all hosted TakeOvers to great success. Those businesses are not blind to the power of the gay dollar. And neither is Wachovia who partnered with PA Diversity Network to host a very successful gay professionals mixer at their Broad Street office in Bethlehem. Over 150 people mingled and bid on silent auction items and enjoyed the slide show of the PDN Photo Project of gay couples. Lee Gribbens on Main has been hosting a very successful "boys night" on Thursdays for a few months now. The food is scrumptious (they also catered the Wachovia mixer) and the drinks are reasonably priced. Let's hope this trend continues. Getting out and about provides us the visibility we need to gain the acceptance to secure equal rights.

**COMMUNITY.** Speaking of Lee Gribbens, please join us Thursday, November 29th for the kick-off to the Holiday Fundraising Season. The Gaydar Magazine Holiday Party to benefit FACT and Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley will be at Lee Gribbens on Main in Emmaus. \$20 includes a mouth-watering buffet and your first cocktail. Check out the menu and order tickets at [prideglv.org](http://prideglv.org).

**FAMILY.** To be specific, my boyfriend's family. We just celebrated his grandparent's 50th anniversary. They are an amazing couple (and democrats-yay!), as are his parents (republicans-boo!), aunt & uncle (mixed marriage-1 republican, 1 democrat- they cancel each other out) and brother and fiancée (1 pot head, 1 banker--imagine the confusion when "a dime bag" is mentioned). Seriously, I love them all. They have been so very welcoming to me and they sincerely celebrate our relationship. Gary, Thank you for a great year and a half. Happy Thanksgiving Everyone! Steve

## **MCCLV EVENTS**

**MCCLV Thanksgiving Gathering**  
Away from family for the Thanksgiving holiday? Or maybe you want to get away from family for a bit? Join Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley at Noon on Thanksgiving Day for a special Thanksgiving Dinner. All are welcome. Contact MCCLV at 610-709-8800 or [info@mcclv.org](mailto:info@mcclv.org)

**Bible Study Starts January 2008**  
Starting the first Sunday of January, Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley will host an Adult Bible Study every Sunday from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. For 2008 and 2009, the Bible Study will be a biographical study of the Bible. The Study will be led by MCCLV Pastor Beth Goudy. For more information, contact Rev. Goudy at 610-709-8800 or e-mailing [rev.goudy@mcclv.org](mailto:rev.goudy@mcclv.org). All are welcome.

**MCCLV Observes World AIDS Day**  
On Sunday, December 2 Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley will be observing World AIDS Day at its 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. worship services. All are welcome. Guest preaching that Sunday will be Rt. Rev. Fr. Rusty Smith Exec Director, Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry. [www.novam.org](http://www.novam.org)

## **TOUCHSTONE**

Touchstone Theatre will host an evening of entertainment to raise awareness about the Lehigh Valley Black African Heritage History Project Monday, November 12 at 7p.m. at Broughal Middle School, 125 West Packer Avenue, Bethlehem.





by Earl and Donnie Snyder

### CRUISING, DISNEY-STYLE

Up to this point, the only vacation Lucas ever had with us as a family, was a short trip to visit a close friend in Connecticut. We decided at 3 and a half Lucas was ready for a real family vacation. As we mentioned in a previous column we would be taking Lucas on a Disney Cruise.

We had done some investigating and found that the cruise was excellent for our family as a unit, Lucas alone, and for us as parents. The cruise offers loads of family fun, grown up entertainment, and even the Oceaneer's Club for small children. The kids can spend most, if not all the cruise time in the club, anytime from 9:00 am until 12:30 am, supervised by a host of counselors. Yes, they can have lunch, dinner and naptime there as well. It can be a vacation within a vacation for the parents and the kids.

Initially, we decided that this was going to be a family vacation and we would spend our time as a family unit splashing in the ship pools, frolicking on the beaches, and enjoying Disney movies. This turned out to be only one big fantasy. Lucas was crabby when we first boarded the ship. Probably due to travel fatigue. It went down hill from there. Lucas did not want to stay seated for Cinderella, Snow White or the Little Mermaid. Those Disney princesses are icons. Doesn't he realize that? The Oceaneer's Club was beginning to look like a good option since we forgot to bring our copy of the Mommie Dearest movie for good measure.

Lucas wanted to be with other children in the club and not with his parents. That became acceptable to us. We relented and put Lucas in the kids' club. Our ideal vision of the family vacation was lost at sea but the real fun was about to begin for us. While Lucas was playing in the sand, celebrating Mickey's birthday, and eating Minnie Mouse macaroni and cheese, (his choice any day over steak or chops) we were enjoying the martini bar, snorkeling, wine-tasting, shopping, and more martinis.

So, the vacation did not turn out the way we imagined it would. But we all had a fantastic time. And yes we did spend time together as a family each day as well. We even sat through a Disney character dance revue and Lucas took a glass bottom boat tour with us. We changed our minds about this vacation and let Lucas enjoy it in a way that would be most memorable for him and least stressful for us.

Oh, the really cool part we almost forgot to mention, we were the only gay couple on the cruise with a child. Actually we were the only gay couple on the cruise. The revue where Mickey and Donald were dancing with each other does not count.



**READ MORE IN THE  
RAINBOW FAMILIES SECTION OF  
PA DIVERSITY NETWORK'S  
WEB SITE AT [WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG](http://WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG).**

### DOCUMENTARY MOVIE SHOWING PLANNED

Rev. Judi Venturini of Unity Center for Spiritual Living, PA Diversity Networks Board, Metropolitan Community Church and the GSA at Muhlenberg College are all working together to plan Lehigh Valley showings of the documentary The Bible Tells Me So, early next year. Stayed tuned.

8



## RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

### PLANNING FOR THE UNPLEASANT THINGS

Planning for the fun things includes saving, investing, buying a home and sprinting toward retirement. Preparing for the unpleasant things includes getting insurance and covering the possibility of illness or disability. Dealing with all of it at once requires smart and effective financial planning.

**Domestic Partnership Agreements** -- Lesbian and gay couples that own property together or otherwise combine their finances face a more serious dilemma than they may realize. If the relationship ends, there is no established legal pattern for unraveling financially interwoven lives. In a worst-case scenario, it could fall to a judge who doesn't even respect our relationships to try to find an equitable way to untangle them. In order to avoid this, we are forced to set the group rules ourselves in advance. Create a domestic partnership agreement. It is essential that every couple that not enjoying the benefit of the legal infrastructure that comes with marriage, carefully consider the need for such a document.

**Disclose Your Estate Plans to Friends and Family** -- As awkward and difficult as it may be, it is essential that you identify at least one family member to explain your estate plan to in advance. There's a pretty good chance your wishes will be met with a reaction of anger and surprise when they're revealed after your death. Remember, as we've often heard, even good people can act strangely and uncharacteristically after the death of a loved one. Briefing at least one family member on your decisions while you're still alive and well, makes it harder for such a reaction to carry much weight within a family or within the courts. This is a critical step for gay men and lesbians in relationships, where the potential for conflict over your estate planning decisions is higher (and almost certainly higher than you think).

**Paper Trail for Jointly Owned Property** -- Keeping assets out of the probate court is an important estate planning goal for most lesbians and gay men, and titling assets jointly with a right of survivorship often can be a good technique for achieving this goal. However, there is an important estate trap to beware of when using this technique: If joint owners aren't married, the tax law assumes that the first joint owner to die owned the entire property. A way to avoid this trap is to keep detailed and meticulous records that prove each person contributed equally to the purchase and upkeep of the property. The paperwork burden imposed by these rules is enormous, but with estate tax ratings starting at 37%, it may be worth the effort.

Denise McKelvey is a Financial Advisor for Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. located at 1045 S Cedar Crest Blvd Allentown. E-mail [denise.m.mckelvey@ampf.com](mailto:denise.m.mckelvey@ampf.com) Phone 610.439.7000

## READING PRIDE NEWS

Reading Pride Celebration was proud to be the guest speaker at a recent Eastern PFLAG Meeting in Reading. President Rich Spangler and his committee delivered a report on the final outcomes of Reading's 2007 pride celebration and spoke about how the group coordinated its highly successful event.

Community groups interested in Reading Pride speaking at their next meeting to report on 2007's outcomes and updates for 2008 may contact Brian Pinto, Public Relations Chair, at [readingpride@gmail.com](mailto:readingpride@gmail.com).

The next planning meeting for Reading Pride is Monday, Nov 19, at 7pm, at Canal Street Pub in Reading. For more information on Reading Pride Celebration, please visit [www.readingpridecelebration.com](http://www.readingpridecelebration.com).



## FAITH PAGES by Adrian Shanker

### DEMOCRATS AND FAITH

The 2008 primary season is well underway, and we have seen an interesting flip in the world of faith and politics. The Democrats have found the faith vote, and the GOP seems to have lost it. How does all of this effect queer rights and LGBT people of faith in particular?

For too long, the fringe right wing of both Christianity and the Republican Party has used their image and ideology of God as a means for discrimination and political marginalization of queer people everywhere. The Democrats, while sometimes supporting queer equality has marginalized the faith vote through a hyper-separationist ideology of church and state. While church and state should (and must) stay separated, the Democrats have finally found a way they may be able to win - they got the faith back.

The good news is that Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, and Dennis Kucinich have all managed to speak about issues of equality through a lens of religion. Kucinich, a Catholic who is a champion of the peace movement, supports full same-sex marriage rights. Clinton, Obama, and Edwards don't - but they use their faith to speak about equality for LGBT people in the military, in the workplace, and in the fight against hate crimes.

For once, our issues are the moral issues. Preventing hate crimes is a moral issue, ending workplace discrimination is a moral issue, and marriage equality is a moral issue. And as queer activists, we should embrace this move as a politically feasible way to get our voices heard.

The better news is that the GOP has lost their faith. OK, so Sam Brownback and Mike Huckabee still have the evangelical vote - and it is up in the air whether Mitt Romney does - but it is to our major advantage that 2 of the 3 most serious Republican contenders (Giuliani and McCain - minus Romney) have both clearly lost the evangelical vote. Many of our most hated anti-gay leaders have even said that if Rudy is nominated, they will support a third party "family" candidate.

So what does this mean for queer rights? It means that we need to embrace the faith the Democrats have found. Be a moving force in their election, and then make sure that queer issues are brought to the forefront of their agenda once they are elected. We should not be scared of the democrats and their faith - we should use it to our political advantage.



From Left: Dixie White, Mark Laubach, Rev. T. Scott Allen, Dave Moyer (photo by Dave Moyer)

## INTEGRITY AT EPISCOPAL CONVENTION

Rev. T. Scott Allen reports: "The Episcopal Diocesan Convention in October included Integrity's presence and display. Two of our number were elected to represent the Diocese at the National Convention in 2009 in Anaheim, CA. The Rev. T. Scott Allen (me) in the clergy or order and Mr. Mark Laubach from Wilkes-Barre will be part of the 8 person delegation representing us in Anaheim!"

## VALLEY GAY PRESS<sup>9</sup>

web site: [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org)

Publisher, Managing Editor - Liz Bradbury

Publisher, Editor - Patricia Sullivan

Columnists: Liz Bradbury, Patricia Sullivan, Denise McKelvey, Donnie Snyder, Earl Snyder, Stephen Libby, Scott Laubner, Sue Sneringer and others

### Valley Gay Press - The Lehigh Valley and Berks County's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Community Opinion and Newspaper (VGP)

operates as part of **Pennsylvania Diversity Network**. VGP owns the copyright to its articles and columns. No part may be reproduced without written permission of the Publisher. VGP offers free copies for direct mail and hand-out distribution to Lehigh Valley area not-for-profit organizations and businesses. The editorial columns and political cartoons that appear in the Valley Gay Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VGP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.

### Organizations that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:

**Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley**

1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown 610-709-8800

**PFLAG Allentown, Reading and Pottsville** -- see meeting schedule

**Pride House** at Muhlenberg College, Allentown

**19th Street Theater** -- 527 N 19th St. Allentown

**Lehigh Valley Unitarian Universalist Church**

(UUCLV) -- 424 Center St., Bethlehem

**Haven GLBTA Youth Group** at UUCLV

**Theatre Outlet**, 930 N. 4th St. Allentown

**10 Libraries in Berks County**

**Planned Parenthood NEPA** 48 S. 4th St. Reading

**Easy Does It Clubhouse (Berks County),**

**Reading Community Theatre -**

**11th & Buttonwood Sts Reading**

**Allen HS GSA, Reading HS GSA, Gov Mifflin HS GSA**

**Wilson High School GSA, Berks AIDS Network**

**Berks Mens Social Group, Kutztown Univ GLBT Center**

**Reading Area Community College GSA**

**48 S. 4th St., Reading**

### Businesses that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:

**Diamondz Nightclub** -- 1913 W. Broad St., Bethlehem

**Stonewall Bar** -- 28-30 N. 10th St. Allentown

**Candida's** -- 247 N. 12th St., Allentown

**Hava Java Coffee Shop** -- N. 19th St. Allentown

**Dreamscape Comics** -- 302 W. Broad St., Bethlehem

**The Woods Campground**

**Red Star Saloon** -- 11 S. 10th St. Reading

**Sanctuary Counseling** -- 515 Old Swede Road,

Douglasville

### Valley Gay Press is published 10 times a year monthly, excepting February and September.

Deadlines are the 18th of the previous month.

PDN's membership cycle begins in January.

Circulation: 1000-2000 papers per issue.

Readership: 3500, monthly, 35k readers a year.

### To Contact Valley Gay Press:

Mail to: PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

Phone: 610-432-5449 Email: [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org)

To arrange for your group or organization to receive copies to distribute, contact VGP. Some restrictions apply.





# MEMBERSHIP FORM

10

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Senior dues (over 65) \$5  
☐ Individual dues \$15  
☐ Family dues \$20

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check to PDN. Additional contribution  
Make checks payable to PDN. ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ other

**LEHIGH VALLEY RESIDENTS MAIL TO:**

**PDN  
PO BOX 22902  
LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 18002**

**BERKS COUNTY RESIDENTS MAIL TO:**

**PDN  
PO BOX 242  
MERTZTOWN, PA 19539**

**BECOME A MEMBER OF PA DIVERSITY NETWORK  
TO GET A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE VALLEY GAY PRESS**

## PA DIVERSITY NETWORK MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

**PLEASE SUPPORT PDN BY PAYING YOUR DUES NOW**

Membership to PA Diversity Network, which brings you a subscription to the Valley Gay Press, is just \$15 for an individual membership and \$20 for a family membership.

PA Diversity Network is a not-for-profit volunteer driven organization which supports the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender community of the Greater Lehigh Valley and Berks County. PDN's projects include: The Valley Gay Press, The GLBT Infoline, the PDN Resource Web Site, the PDN Photo Project -- 200 Same-sex Couples and Rainbow Families. PDN also fights individual instances of discrimination on a case by case basis, does presentations to organizations, educational institutions and businesses on GLBT issues, and brings the community entertaining and fun activities like special concert events, art shows, community action opportunities, Bingo, and participation with other organizations.

PDN exists and functions financially in great part on contributions and memberships from people like you. Please become a 2008 member of PDN and further support PDN with a contribution. PDN is a 501(c)3 tax deductible organization.

**PAY YOUR PDN  
DUES ON LINE!**  
**JUST GO TO "MEMBERSHIP" AT  
WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG  
IT'S EASY, IT'S SECURE.**

## CIRCULATE YOUR GROUP'S INFO

VGP is a free way for GLBTA friendly groups and organizations to get their information to hundreds of people in the Greater Lehigh Valley and Berks County. If you represent a pro-GLBT group or organization, or if you would like to start one, email PA Diversity Network (info@padiversity.org) or call the PDN offices at 610-432-5449 to find out how to list and circulate information about your group.

## RAINBOW AA

Rainbow AA meetings Monday and Thursdays, 7:30pm  
2nd flr, Church of the Mediator -1620 Turner St. Allentown,  
AA Hotline:610-882-0558.

## SUPPORT PDN BY SEARCHING THE NET

You can support PA Diversity Network with every computer search at no cost to you. Instead of Google searches, start using Goodsearch.com as your search engine (powered by Yahoo) and choose the charity "Pennsylvania Diversity Network." Every search will give PA Diversity Network and all its programs including the Valley Gay Press, one penny. If 100 people search 2 times a day -- that is \$730 per year!

PA Diversity provides the community with a great amount of support and resources and this is an easy way to support PDN. Make Goodsearch your home page!!!

**CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY'S WEBSITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG**





# LIZ OUT LOUD © 11 TRISH'S COLUMN ©

By Liz Bradbury and By Patricia Sullivan

## DUMBLEDORE IS GAY... LIKE WE COULDN'T HAVE GUESSED

"Speaking at Carnegie Hall in mid October, J.K. Rowling stated what many in the GLBT community had always suspected -- that she "always thought Dumbledore was gay," reported entertainment Web site E! Online. Rowling added, "The Potter books in general are a prolonged argument for tolerance, a prolonged plea for an end to bigotry."

What was the reaction to her statement at Carnegie? The audience reportedly fell silent after the admission -- then erupted into applause.

It's pretty hilarious that a few bloggers have suggested that Rowling is just doing this to get a larger audience (that includes gay people) for her books. This author is the first literary billionaire in history. She has more money than Queen Elizabeth. More than 11 million copies of her seventh book were sold within the first hour of its release. How much bigger could her audience be?

By the way, This isn't an idea that just came to Rowling while she was chatting with the huge Carnegie Audience. When the script for the sixth movie inferred a female romantic interest in Dumbledore's past, Rowling immediately informed the movie's director that it was not plausible because Dumbledore was gay.

And it really has been so obvious since the beginning of the series, the gay subtext signs were all there. Harry lives in a closet in the first book. His bigoted Uncle asks in the second book, "Why can't you be normal?" and insists that Harry deny his true self. Meanwhile the unimaginative and repressed muggles walk among the witches and wizards totally oblivious, while the wizarding world can identify each other quite easily. It's just like gaydar, that powerful quality that separates us from others and aids the identification of our own. Even the clothing in Harry's world is fabulous - starting with Dumbledore's first appearance in book #1, in long purple cloak and high heeled buckled boots (is that a give away or what?).

Let's do every thing we can to be sure Dumbledore's sexual orientation isn't just skipped over because it supports our youth. Solomon Shapiro, a child and adolescent psychiatrist who heads the Gender and Sexual Orientation Service at Toronto's Hines-Dellcrest Center has said in response to Rowling's revelation, "Having a positive gay role model in a popular children's series can help thousands of young people who are gay, or think they might be gay, come to fully accept themselves as they are."

On another level, we should remember that the greatest threat to the Wizarding World is the Dark Arts Wizards who incarnate evil and who are not inclusive of "mud bloods". In other words, the biggest threat comes from their own people. We in the GLBT community often find that those who are the most virulently anti-GLBT are actually GLBT themselves. Just check the latest scandals among the ranks of the far right.

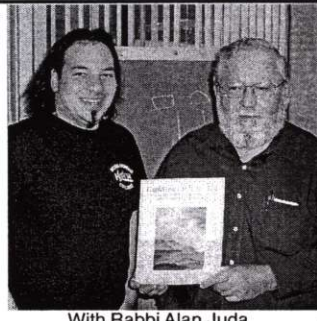
We are also the most detrimental to ourselves when we deny our true selves, instead of embracing who we are. Even though Harry has to fight evil in every book, he is way happier about his life when he stops living in the closet and accepts what he is and begins to learn about the ways and history of his own people. It may be hard for Harry, but he never considers just going back to his old life and pretending he is not a wizard. So three cheers for Dumbledore and his outspoken creator!



Rabbi Barbara Goldman Wartell of LV Jewish Federation with Adrian Shanker



Hannah Woodward, Patti Mittleman & Joe Grinenko at Muhlenberg Hillel



With Rabbi Alan Juda at Brith Shalom, Bethlehem

## PDN DISTRIBUTES IMPORTANT PRO-GLBT TEXT

With the help of a grant from NEPA PFLAG, PA Diversity Network Boardmember Adrian Shanker developed a plan to distribute Rabbi Richard Address's recently edited, expanded and updated version of Kulanu, a 500 page manual on GLBT inclusion in Reform Judaism to Jewish congregations and communal organizations in the Lehigh Valley and Berks County. This new expansion, for the first time, includes resources for the trans community - including a blessing for a gender reassignment surgery and coming out blessings for the trans community.

In late October, Adrian Shanker and PDN Executive Director Liz Bradbury visited several of the congregations and organizations to drop off the books. Adrian will be distributing the books to congregations and organizations in Berks county in early November.

(Photos by Liz Bradbury)



With Judy Murman, Exec. Director of Keneseth Israel

**THERE IS NO ROOM FOR "COMPROMISE" ON ENDA. WORKPLACE NON-DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION MUST INCLUDE SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY. PA DIVERSITY NETWORK SIGNED ON IMMEDIATELY TO THE UNITED ENDA EFFORT TO KEEP THE EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT INCLUSIVE OF GENDER IDENTITY.**



# POP QUIZ 12

1. The name of Bette Middler's comedy Halloween movie is \_\_\_\_\_. A. Shazaam B. Abracadabra C. Hocus Pocus D. Witches are Bitches
2. Bette's back-up singer witches in the above movie were:
3. Scooby Doo's ghost chasing, 4 person, human crew are named:
4. Veronica Lake and Fredrick March's 1942 comedy \_\_\_\_\_ directed by Rene Clair featured Salem Witches appearing in modern times. A. I Married a Witch B. Bewitched C. The Witches of Eastwick D. Bednobs and Broomsticks
5. Which of these stories takes place on Halloween Night? A. Arsenic and Old Lace B. Spooky House C. It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown D. Hocus Pocus
6. The 1931 movie Frankenstein was directed by openly gay director:
7. Jack Skellington wants to "do Christmas" in:
8. In The Rocky Horror Picture Show, who plays Rocky? A. Tim Curry B. Richard O'Brien C. Peter Hinwood D. Barry Bostwick
9. Elvira Mistress of the Night's real name is: A. Andrea Anderson B. Maria Moldinore C. Seska Kazon D. Cassandra Peterson
10. Katie Bates' character in Misery is named: A. Annie B. Mary C. Linda D. Carrie

1. C 2. Sarah Jessica Parker Najimy 3. Shaggy Freddy, Velma, Daphne 4. A 5. All 6. James Whale 7. Nightmare Before Christmas 8. C 9. D 10. A

## QUOTE #6

"...However, let's drop all pretenses and admit that when we talk of an "incremental" approach it is code for at least a fifteen-year increment of time." -- Wayne Besen, from Anything But Straight, re: ENDA.

## VALLEY GAY PRESS BOOK REVIEW

Rosemary & Thyme videos, series 1, 2 and 3. Acorn Media

I don't usually review videos in this column, but the Rosemary and Thyme series, seen as an original serial on PBS, feels like the kind of escapist read you get from an English village style mystery.

The main characters, who are just good friends (but occasionally mistaken for more so) are two middle aged women who work together on creating and restoring the most beautifully filmed English and European gardens you could hope to see. Former policewoman, Laura Thyme (played by Pam Ferris) whose husband has just dumped her and recently laid-off college professor Rosemary Boxer (played by Felicity Kendal) find and solve mysteries at every gardening job they take. The 'not-too-complex' plots are enhanced by the strong friendship that develops between the two women. That the women do real work, get dirty and look the way real women, do also adds to the story quality.

Three series of six episodes each are available. That ought to get you through the cold winter nights.

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA Diversity Network

GLBT Infoline

PA-GALA

Rainbow Families

Valley Gay Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORA

Pride of the GLV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV

OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLSN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater

19th Street Theater

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley

Touchstone Theater

Congregation Am Flakalah

The Lehigh Valley Progressive Students Alliance

The Consistory of St. Peter's UCC - Allentown

United Friends School Quakertown

LV Transsexual Coalition

Lehigh Valley Transmen

Contact VGP to list your organization

## QUOTE #1

"I believe if two people want to commit to each other, God bless 'em. That is the highest form of commitment, for heaven's sake," Dear Abby (Pauline Phillips) to the AP, "I'm trying to tell kids if they are gay, it's OK to be gay. I've tried to tell families if they have a gay family member to accept them and love them as they always have," Dear Abby said upon receiving a top award from national PFLAG.

## QUOTE #2

"We have indicated our support (of) trans-inclusiveness to Sen. Collins and Sen. Kennedy." -- Answer to the question "Where does Senator Cassey stand on a the trans-inclusive ENDA," asked by PDN Exec. Director of a top Cassey staff member.

## QUOTE #3

"But the question has come up: If we can't include gender identity in this bill, should we do anything at all? Should we take half a loaf. My colleagues, I think the answer is no. I think we cannot toss this element of an important civil rights coalition to the side. We have to make sure, particularly in the context of us doing what is largely symbolic, there is no sense that the Senate is going to act on this, and certainly no sense that the President of the United States and this administration is going to. Maybe what we should say is we are in this together." -- Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-NY) in a statement from the House Floor.

## QUOTE #4

"Logic would tell me that I still have work to do there, that my voice on that board is far more effective than on the outside looking in, but in the same sense that I expected the organization to take a principled stand on a very important issue, I couldn't hold myself to a lesser standard," -- Donna Rose, who resigned from HRC in October, as the first and only transgender board member of the Human Rights Campaign, due to HRC's ENDA stance (as quoted in the Advocate).

## QUOTE #5

"Our law here in Mexico City could cause a chain reaction," - Alejandro Brito of the activist group Letra S on the passage of legal same-sex unions.

Distelfink® 11/07 by Ruby Zebu Family Values

